

The

Tricentennial

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Tricentennial News

Virgil Harris, Chairman for the Heritage Sub-Committee extends his request for anyone interested in joining his fun group to call him at 452-7068. In reviewing Historic Markers, he particularly is interested if anyone knows of the whereabouts of those markers entitled *Pass Christian*, *John Henderson*, and *Bed Sheet Surrender*. These have been missing or many years, but may be hidden away for safe keeping.

In searching for the ideal person to head up our Merchandising Sub-Committee would be someone that has a past retail and inventory control background. While waiting for the position to be filled, a new merchandise item consists of a 22-page book with photos which highlights the Pass Christian Flag (its loss and return). Included are Confederate stories of the Lost Child, the Battle of Pass Christian, the Bedsheet Surrender, the Sauciers at Union Headquarters, Willet's Landing, the Dahlgren Guards, and selected Vignettes hidden away at the Town Library.

In color, the cover displays the Bonnie Blue Flags of Pass Christian and Mississippi. Also inclosed is an honorary Flag Guardian Certificate. Merchandise books are available from City Hall or Valentino's for \$10. The current other book is Map Set III. These are informative Heritage Books which make great presents to friends and out of town relatives. All net proceeds go to the Tricentennial Fund.

RAND JONES -- A PROFILE

C. Randall Jones, after becoming Pass Christian's first Eagle Scout, continued to soar the heavens in his quest of services to the community at large.

In September 1941, as a student at the University of Mississippi, Rand was appointed a Cadet First Lieutenant with the Ole Miss ROTC battalion. After graduating in Business Accounting, in

1942, he served as an officer in World War II. Following the War, he graduated from Virginia University Law School, and soon afterward established his practice of law, accounting and income tax reporting at the local Hancock Bank Building. He provided the Pass with its only law office, a distinction held for several decades.

In 1951, he was elected president of the Rotary Club and in 1957, he served as president of the Chamber of Commerce. While serving on the local school board, he promoted a program to plant and harvest pine trees on 16th section lands as a means of additional funding for the school district. He also raised money through timber sales from Robinson Park for the Boy Scouts. He served as the Veteran's night school as principal and President of the Harrison County Bar Association. He has also served as Charter Treasurer for the PCI Golf Club, past Commodore of the P.C. Yacht Club, past president of the PC Historical Society, past City Attorney, County Board of Supervisors attorney, chairman of the City's Economic Development Committee, a volunteer with SCORE, and active with Trinity Episcopal Church.



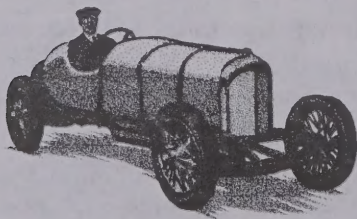
(Continued on page 7)

OLD SPANISH TRAIL

By 1904, automobiles started arriving at the Pass by rail transportation and used locally. The roadways in or out were not conducive to such traffic. In 1915, at a meeting in Mobile, the concept for the Old Spanish Trail from St. Augustine, Florida to San Diego, California was launched. It was there that the Gulf Coast was included as the only saltwater stretch along the entire 2,700 mile journey connecting the two oceans.

Some maps continued to designate the new highway as the Spanish Trail. It was successful as a national marketing promotion, however, there was never a *Spanish Trail* traversing Mississippi or Louisiana. Some portions of the old Highway 90 system in Slidell and in Bay St. Louis, even today, continue the name of "Old Spanish Trail."

By 1925, a ribbon of asphalt followed the shore line from the Pearl River to the Alabama boundary. It was constructed as part of the Old Spanish Trail National Highway traversing the continent from St. Augustine to San Diego. Starting in 1924, the seawall system was laid from Henderson Point to Point Cadet at Biloxi making the 24-mile-long step seawall the largest reinforced concrete structure and the longest concrete seawall in the world. It was dedicated on May 10, 1928.



Loosing Historic Markers

Pass Christian has always maintained a significant number of official Magnolia Historic Markers throughout the area. These markers originally cost the State in the neighborhood of \$1250 each. The Magnolia markers are noted by a magnolia blossom encircled at the top center of the metal markers distributed by the Mississippi Department of History and Archives. When the first one was discovered lost a number of years past, it was finally revealed by the State Department that they had repossessed it because it was not historically accurate. That one was the *Pass Christian Marker*. After that, the *John Henderson Marker* and *Bed Sheet Surrender Marker* were appropriated or stolen.

During the last week or two in May, it seemed that we had lost two more. The *Cat Island Marker* located on Hwy. 90 across from Kittiwake on the beachside, and the *DeLisle Marker* located at the huge Dedeaux Oaks on Bayou DeLisle by the bridge. A telephone call to Jackson's Department of History and Archives found that actually twelve markers along the coast had been ordered for pick-up. They are being sandblasted and repainted for the upcoming Tricentennial celebrations. The others are scheduled for refurbishment during coming months.

The Daughters of the Confederacy had the Historic Marker at the Rhea Park in front of Trinity Church repainted dark blue with white lettering during the past month. That marker commemorates Live Oak Cemetery and the grave plot of Frances Parke Lewis Butler, great-niece of George Washington.



PASS CHRISTIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Charter

The incorporators were Mrs. John Prichard, William Wiegand, and George Morse; and was filed with the Secretary of State on March 6, 1966 as a non-profit, non-stock civic improvement society.

The purposes set forth in the Charter are:

- To work for and towards the improvement of the City of Pass Christian, and;
- To strive for the establishment of a museum or museums in which works of art, historical documents, and other matters of historical interest pertaining to the City of Pass Christian and the surrounding area of the State of Mississippi would be maintained.

Further, through its By-Laws, other purposes include:

- To research, collect, preserve, and display subject matter pertaining to local history, and;
- To assist in the preservation and protection of noteworthy structures of historical significance in the City of Pass Christian that lend themselves to the benefit of education, pleasure, and general welfare of its citizens and visitors.

Museum Addition

John Lutenbacher, president of the Historical Society, at the packed house gathering of members, friends, and family of C. D. Taylor, announced plans for the expansion alongside its headquarter's building that would provide space for a Museum location.

Membership

Membership in the Historical Society is \$15 per individual or \$25 per family. Monthly meetings are held in the Historical Society Headquarters on Scenic Drive. Telephone 452-0063.

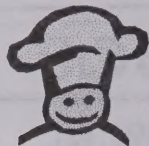
THE SAZERAC

Imagine riding along Beach Road in Pass Christian before the turn of the century and looking up to see a bright sign displaying "The Sazerac". In 1895, the Saloon keeper, Roderick McIntosh, was considered a connoisseur of liquors and cigars. He named the tavern after Handy's Royal Street famed *Sazerac Saloon* in New Orleans and he was proud to equal its quality of drinks and service. The tavern was located on First Street presumably on the Gulf side near Market Street during the 1890s. McIntosh was born near Handsboro and promoted his first business with moderate success in Mississippi City, both of those towns are now incorporated in the City of Gulfport. *The Sazerac* in Pass Christian was a great success. McIntosh maintained a large inventory of imported wines, liqueurs, cordials, and choice liquors from all over. He also served the famed local Scuppernong Wine produced by Colonel Davis' winery.

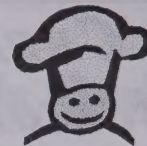
McIntosh descendants who live in Gulfport today, report that his home was located on Second Street and that he was born in 1854 and died at an early age of 49 in 1904. He was buried at Live Oak Cemetery where he was joined by his wife, Mary German McIntosh in 1912. During their marriage they produced eight children.

P.C.H.S. OPEN -- 3-Days-a-Week

Tues: 10a.m. to noon & 1-3 p.m.; Wed: 10a.m. to noon; Thurs: 10a.m. to noon & 1-3 p.m. Volunteers are: Adele Bielenberg, Gerry Bishop, Bill and Betty Carlin, Julia Cerra, Dottie Cooper, Jean Moreland, Otis Trepagnier, and Mary Catherine Ward. More volunteers are urged.



Chef de Cuisine



A gifted master -- and, Warren Leruth's many skills are all signs of his mastery of the culinary arts. As a former restaurateur, and author of *The Front Door-Back Door Cookbook* and *LeRuth's 20th Anniversary Cookbook*, Chef Leruth continues in savory enterprises from his home in the Pass while in leisurely semi-retirement.

After being bestowed with an honorary doctorate in culinary arts in June 1996, Leruth was quick to acknowledge his early development at Solari's of New Orleans, which was famed as a *grocery/charcuterie/patisserie*. It was there that he effected his passion for excellence and innovation. He continued his developmental processes at Galatoire's as a "*saucier*" while perfecting his skills in French and Creole food preparations. He sharpened his mastery at Diamond Jim Moran's, the Monteleone Hotel, Galveston's Balinese Room, and Houston's Shamrock Hotel before becoming a Warrant Officer in the military. While serving his tour of duty, he became the personal chef to General Bruce C. Clark and went on to cook for Richard Nixon, Cardinal Spellman, and Korean President Syngman Rhee.

Having received a number of commendations in his trade, in 1963, he was inducted as the youngest member of the national chef fraternity, *The Order of the Golden Toque*. Soon afterwards, he opened his own New Orleans Restaurant, "*LeRuth's*," in a Victorian cottage on the West Bank. Overnight he was successful as droves of customers pleased their palates with attentive service and consistently excellent food preparations of baked bread, fruit deserts, and phenomenal entrées. Once he broke the "cross the river" barrier, other chefs were soon to follow.

LeRuth's was heralded with Fine Dining Awards from every leading magazine and was noted as a "five-star-restaurant" for many years in the international field of culinary excellence. In 1982, Chef Leruth, turned the restaurant over to his sons, and established his own specially designed kitchen in his home on Scenic Drive.

Here he continues as a consultant, and new product developer to a string of national and international food chains. He counts himself as a food flavorist and connoisseur of cost/ratio economics.

The Tricentennial Committee is excited that Chef Warren Leruth will assist in the furthering of the *PassCuisine* CookBook by supplying a special selection of his exceptional recipes.



United Way - Under Way

Effervescent Becky Montgomery has been designated Chairperson to head up the South Mississippi United Way Campaign. Her previous years of experience as a dedicated fund-raiser for the Agency has capitalized on Becky's goal setting mind-set.

"My job with the "Development Commission" is bringing new businesses and diversity to the economy, increasing the tax base and making this a better place to live," she stated. "At United Way, I'll be focusing on social services and quality of life."

Congratulations, Becky, for jobs well done and in your propensity to accept the challenge before you!

Phillipe Saucier at DeLisle

Third Episode of Gloria Moran's History)

Jean Baptiste Saucier of Canada and Mobile and his wife, the *Pelican Girl* Gabrielle Savary, gave birth to Henry Saucier, as mentioned in a previous reporting. He was chief engineer under whose direction Fort de Chartres in Illinois country was re-built in the 1750's. Other Saucier family members were equally prominent in that area in the 1700's. This Illinois Country is the site of a mission established by Father Jacques Marquette of Marquette-Jolliet fame, in 1675.

Philippe Saucier (a son of Henry Saucier) received two Spanish land grants in the St. Louis Bay area, one recorded on August 27, 1781 at the current city of Bay St. Louis and another in 1794, as a tract of vacant land situated on the Bayou called DeLisle . . . it was bounded on the southwest by land belonging to Bartholome Grelot -today's Gollott family - and on the northeast by vacant land. The land granted to Philippe Saucier is shown on today's Harrison County Engineer's map as being on the northeast end of the DeLisle Bayou bridge, extending eastward to Menge and, in two triangles to the east of Menge Avenue. The land on the northwest end of DeLisle bridge is shown as being the claim of Bartholomew Grelot or Gollott - where the beautiful, enormous oak trees are located on your left as you cross DeLisle bridge going north. In 1846, Marie Louise Nicaise's will, which was handwritten in French, was filed for probate in Harrison County. In the settlement of her estate, her

twelve slaves were sold, along with seventy-two head of cattle and various real estate parcels to Jacques Saucier, Henry Saucier, Ramon Lizana, Virginia Toulme, and Cherri DeDaux.

Imagine what a "Tower-of-Babel" reigned in the Philippe Saucier-Marie Louise Nicaise household when their family gathered! . . . One daughter, Basilice, married the Greek Jean Cassibry in 1817, another daughter, Marie Louise, married the Spaniard Ramon Sebastiano Lizana, native of Cadiz, Spain; another daughter married J.B. Toulme, native of French controlled Santo Domingo, and other children married natives of France, the two DeDaux brothers, and a distant Saucier cousin, and a distant Nicaise cousin and a Gollott.

The Philippe Saucier-Marie Louise Nicaise home at DeLisle was surveyed and catalogued by the State Department of History and Archives. Mark Twain was, reportedly, a one-time visitor in that home. And another old home was the Sylvain Ladner-Pauline Moran home, built about 1836 on Rotten Bayou (now, in the area called Diamondhead).

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Past of the Pass

A Public Market House in 1835

In 1835, after the death of freed Negro, former slave, Charles Asmard had willed his vast acreage to his heirs, Sheriff John Brill dedicated a 15-foot vertical slice of his own property which ran north-south from the Gulf shores. The same amount of right-of-way land adjoining his property was appropriated from an heir of Charles Asmard. The combined right-of-way portions provided a north-south roadway from Bayou Portage to the Gulf in order to allow the Brill's to build a Market Place and allow farmers, sheepmen, and traders a means of accessing the Market House.

Coastal Living in 1847

"There are a good number of private residences and villas here, and many staid and solemn people who are perfectly satisfied to sit in their balconies to smoke their Victorias, curse their appetites, and play out in their imaginations, numerous little fishing parties."

N.O. Daily Delta, 8/1/1847.

A Racetrack in 1896

In Charles Sullivan's *"The Mississippi Gulf Coast,"* he described what a railroad executive had to say about Pass Christian in 1896. With 2200 inhabitants and a status as a tourist attraction, "the town possessed three of the coast's largest hotels, which catered primarily to Northern visitors. A Canning Factory, designed to exploit the huge oyster reef just offshore, was under construction and expected to open in the fall. The town had its own artesian waterworks, a beautiful beach drive, and a racetrack."

Emerald Town

Helen Currie Caire wrote in recounting that one day many years ago, she was sailing from Cat Island, and upon approaching the shore, she was inspired to write the following poem about Pass Christian.

EMERALD TOWN

The town stretched along the shore
Glistening in the bright sun.
As we approached the harbour
We could see light fluffy clouds above
Protecting it like a precious jewel
Wrapped in cotton.

We thank you for sharing, Helen.

Sun Herald Report

Four Pass Christian High School students excelled in language arts competitions at USM at Hattiesburg in April. They were supervised by their Spanish Instructor, Rebeca Boudreaux. Students Heath Massey, Jacob Davis, Carmen Jacobs and Laura Farris are shown below from left to right.



Memberships Joining Up

We wish to thank the following out of town residents for their participating as Paid Members of the Tricentennial Committee.

Christopher Colby

John Cox

Mack Herring

Henry Laird

Lloyd Lewis

Margaret Tingle

And, the following paying organizations have been very supportive:

City of Pass Christian Union Planters Bank

Friends of the Library P.C. Garden Club

P.C. Historical Society Valentino's

P.C.I./Henderson Point Civic Association

TimberRidge Property Owners Association

Thanks to all of the others who have been sending in their checks. Your ongoing support makes the efforts of all the wonderful volunteers a multiplied resource. Dayton Robinson is preparing a membership certificate which will be mailed in gratitude to all paying membership. We would hope that you post the certificate as an Historical Keepsake. For \$15, or more, your paid membership underwrites the cost of two years of *Tricentennial Newsletter* issues for one subscriber. The specially created Membership certificate alone is an exceptional multicolored gem. Show it off to your friends! A 300-year Anniversary happens only once - and we are all part of that Happening! Let's all pitch in and keep Dayton busy sending out Membership Certificates.

YES! Sign me up!

I want to keep Dayton busy, enclosed is \$15 or more for the two-year subscription and dues.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

(Mail to Tricentennial/POB # 354/39571)

RAND JONES -- A PROFILE

(Continued from page 1)

At the many town meetings and gatherings, Rand has often performed as Master of Ceremonies; and with personal pride he has continued his interest as a Rotarian and has been a merit badge counselor for the Boy Scouts for 50 years.

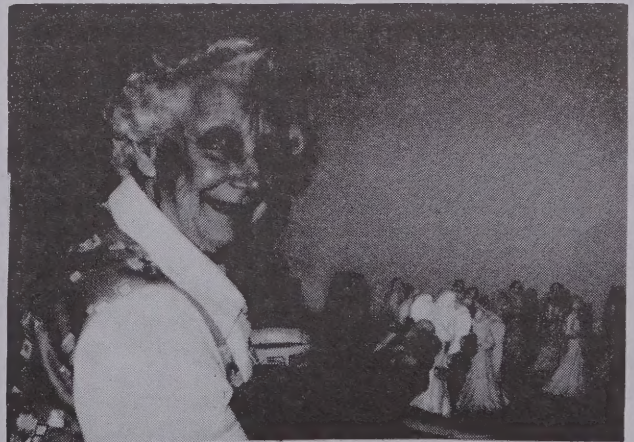
His wife, Helen, has also been active with many community clubs, including the American Heart Association. Each year for Christmas in the Pass, they donate the Christmas Tree at the Park.

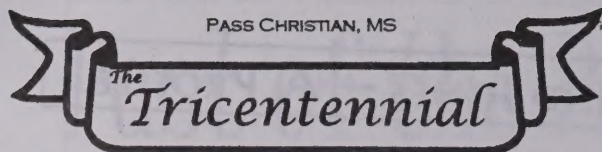
Pass Art Association

During June, the following artist's works can be seen at local banks. Geri Dendis at People's, Joida Evans at Hancock, and Ernie Allison at Union Planter's. Children's art classes, ages 10 to 15, are offered at the Library from 2-3 p.m. on Wednesdays through July 22. Awards were presented to Kathie Calhoun, Sandra Smith Bowring, John McDonald, Lucy Ondrejka, Gwen Berghorn and Stan Stockton.

Ceramics Workshop

You don't have to have an excuse to participate in the Senior Citizen's Center's many activities, but Frona Oestrieher is already making her Christmas presents for '99. Just drop in to the Second Street Center and talk to Mae Parker and find out what's up.





PASS CHRISTIAN, MS

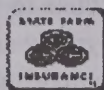
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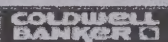


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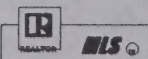


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